

November 27, 1959

Dr. Hideo Kikkawa  
Medical School, Osaka University  
33 Joancho, Kitaku  
Osaka, Japan

Dear Professor Kikkawa:

Hirotsugu has just kindly shown me the letter he had received from you. My wife and I are very grateful to you for your suggested invitation to visit Japan. We would be delighted to do this when a suitable opportunity arose. Unfortunately, my commitments here would make it quite impossible to contemplate leaving for any period of time during the present academic year. With great regret therefore, I would have to say that I would be unable to accept your cordial invitation for this time.

If there is a possibility for further discussion of this proposal at a future date, I would like to suggest the early fall of 1961. This is some time away and the interval would allow me to make suitable preparations in advance. It might possibly be advantageous, if this counter proposal could be realized in some way, to schedule the visit to follow the Pacific Science Congress which should be held in Honolulu in late August or early September 1961. In any case, I hope the organizers of the conference will appreciate the importance of genetics in Pacific Science; this is perhaps more plausible since Professor Snyder has been named the local president of the Congress.

Needless to say, Hirotsugu continues to be a very valuable asset in this laboratory and I trust he continues to enjoy and profit from his experience.

Yours cordially,

Joshua Lederberg  
Professor of Genetics